

ESSER Planning:

Accelerating Achievement

in K-12 Education

Commissioner Penny Schwinn Spring 2021







ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

STUDENT READINESS

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS

EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR
THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE
THE TOP STATE TO BECOME AND REMAIN
A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL





Overview

- Overview of ESSER and the State Agency
- Overall District Requirements
- District Health and Safety Requirements
- District ESSER Planning
- District Reporting Requirements
- Monitoring Overview
- District Supports and Recommendations



Historic Federal Funds for Education

Tennessee public schools will receive over \$4.5 BILLION in federal relief funding for use between spring 2020 and fall 2023.

- Over \$150M in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF), including PPE
- Over \$45M in competitive federal grants for literacy, CCTE, and mental health resources
- Over \$126M in GEER (Governor's discretionary relief funding)
- Over \$385M in ESSER (SEA discretionary relief funding)
- ...in addition to over \$3.58 billion passed directly to LEAs

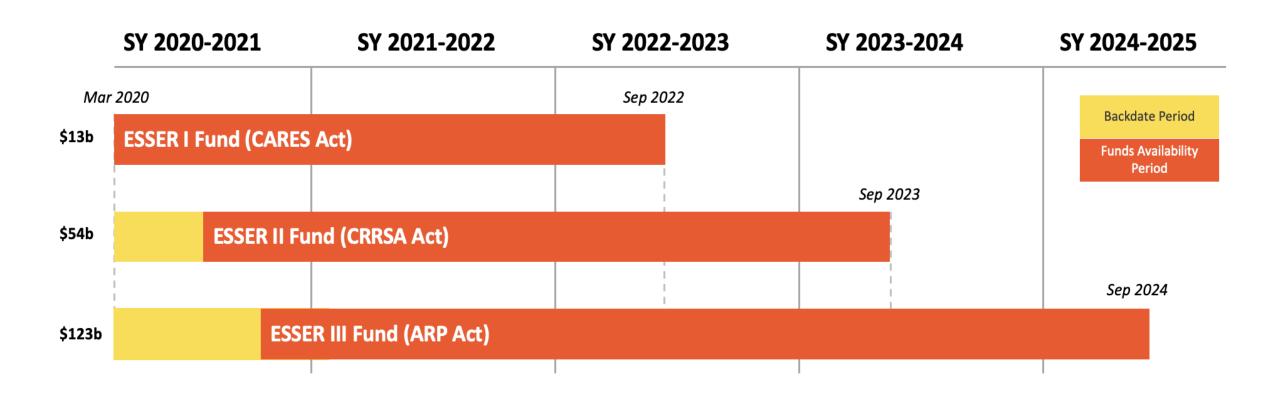


ESSER

States received allocations based on their share of Title I funding

- 90% of funds allocated to LEAs based on each LEA's Title I share
- 10% is reserved for state level activities (only 0.5% may be used for the SEA)
- The uses of funds emphasize learning loss, in-person learning, and school facility improvements
- Minimum requirements for addressing learning loss exist in the third round of funding
- USDOE put forth planning guidance on April 21, 2021
- → ALL funds are one-time and expected to be obligated by September 30, 2022 (ESSER 1.0), 2023 (ESSER 2.0), and 2024 (ESSER 3.0)
- → TDOE and LEAs will provide monthly reporting on federal relief funds beginning July 2021

Fund Availability and Planning Timelines



Spring 2020 ESSER 1.0 and Initial Recovery January - March 2021

ESSER 2.0 Application and Support

March - April 2021

ESSER 3.0 Release and Initial Planning

April - May 2021

LEA Support and

May 1 – August 1, 2021

LEA ESSER Plans Due

State Plan Requirements

The State Plan is due by June 7, 2021, and includes sections for:

- State's Current Status and Needs
- Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations
- Planning for the Use and Coordination of ARP ESSER Funds
- Maximizing State-Level Funds to Support Students
- Supporting LEAs in Planning for and Meeting Students' Needs
- Supporting the Educator Workforce
- Monitoring and Measuring Progress

Note: The state only has one year from the point of receiving funds to award those funds through procurements, grants, etc.



Public Feedback and Comment Requests

- Agape
- American Federation for Children- TN
- Association of Infant Mental Health in TN Steering Committees
- Avers Foundation
- Benwood Foundation
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Tennessee Statewide Association
- Bill and Crissy Haslam Foundation
- Boys and Girls Clubs in Tennessee
- Chattanooga 2.0/Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce
- Communities In Schools of Tennessee
- Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga
- Community Foundation of Greater Memphis
- Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
- Conexión Américas
- Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce
- Country Music Association Foundation
- East Tennessee Foundation
- Education Preparation Providers (22)
- Education Trust
- Governor's Early Literacy Foundation
- Hvde Foundation
- lackson Chamber of Commerce
- lason Foundation
- Kingsport Chamber of Commerce
- Knox Education Foundation
- Knoxville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Memphis Chamber of Commerce
- Memphis Education Fund
- Memphis Lift
- Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Nashville Propel
- Nashville Public Education Foundation

- Niswonger Foundation
- Principal Study Council Executive and
- Professional Educators of Tennessee
- Public Education Foundation
- Scarlett Foundation
- SCORE
- Academics Superintendent Engagement Groups
- Student Readiness Superintendent **Engagement Groups**
- Educator Superintendent Engagement Groups
- Superintendent Study Council Executive Committee
- Synchronus Health
- Teacher Advisory Council
- Tennesseans for Quality Early Education
- Tennesseans for Student Success
- Tennessee Association of School Personnel Administrators
- Tennessee Business Roundtable
- Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Tennessee Charter School Center
- Tennessee Education Association
- Tennessee Educators of Color Alliance
- Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents
- Tennessee PTA
- Tennessee Rural Education Association
- Tennessee Rural Health Association
- Tennessee State Alliance of YMCAs
- Tennessee Urban League Affiliates
- TennesseeCAN
- The Arc Tennessee
- The Educators' Collaborative
- The Poplar Foundation

- United Ways of Tennessee/Tennessee After School Network
- Tennessee Education Research Alliance
- The Urban Child Institute
- Aguinas College
- Austin Peay State University
- Bethel University
- Belmont University
- Bryan College
- Carson-Newman University
- Christian Brothers University
- Cumberland University
- East Tennessee State University
- Fisk University
- Freed-Hardeman University
- Johnson University
- King University
- Lee University
- LeMoyne-Owen College
- Lincoln Memorial University
- Lipscomb University
- Martin Methodist College
- Maryville College
- Middle Tennessee State University
- Milligan College
- Nashville Teacher Residency
- Relay Graduate School of Education
- Rhodes College
- Rutherford County Schools
- South College
- Southern Adventist University
- Teach for America Memphis
- Tennessee State University
- Tennessee Technological University
- Tennessee Wesley University
- Trevecca Nazarene University
- Tusculum University Union University

- University of Memphis
- University of Tennessee Chattanooga
- University of Tennessee Knoxville
- University of Tennessee Martin
- Vanderbilt University
- Welch College
- Western Governors University
- Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission
- Tennessee Department of Agriculture
- Tennessee Arts Commission
- Tennessee Board of Parole
- Tennessee Department of Children's Services
- Tennessee Department of Commerce & Tennessee Advisory Commission on Insurance
- Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability
- Tennessee Commission on Children and Agency Youth
- Tennessee Department of Correction
- Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Tennessee Department of Economic and
 Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Community Development
- Tennessee Department of Environment Services and Conservation
- Tennessee Department of Finance & Administration
- Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions
- Tennessee Department of General Services
- Tennessee Department of Health
- Tennessee Housing Development Agency
 Nashville International Center for
- Tennessee Department of Human Resources Tennessee Human Rights Commission

- Tennessee Department of Human Services
- Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
- Tennessee Department of Military
- Tennessee Department of Revenue
- Tennessee Department of Safety & **Homeland Security**
- Tennessee State Board of Education
- Tennessee Department of Transportation
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
- Tennessee Emergency Management
- Tennessee Higher Education Commission
- Tennessee Regulatory Authority
- Tennessee State Museum Tourist Development
- Tennessee Department of Veterans
- Las Americas
- Tennessee Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages
- World Relief Memphis
- Latino Memphis
- Hispanic Family Foundation
- Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition
- **Empowerment**
- Salahadeen Center of Nashville
- American Muslim Advisory Council

A Summary of TDOE Strategic Investments



ACADEMICS: All TN students will have access to a high-quality education... by learning to read and reading to learn with high-quality materials.

- \$120.7M for the Literacy Success Act and Reading360
- \$170.5M for the TN ALL Corps and summer programming*
- \$35M to support the 2022/2023 math adoption
- \$32M for teaching and learning online resources and improvements for LEAs



STUDENT READINESS: TN schools will be equipped to serve the academic and non-academic needs of all students... by developing robust career pathway opportunities and connecting students to real-time support.

- \$32.6M for Innovative High Schools and Advanced Courses
- \$17.8M for Mental Health and Family Resource Centers
- \$56.5M for K-12 open-source readiness coursework and statewide professional development



EDUCATORS: TN will set a new path for the education profession... by becoming a teacher for free.

• \$21M in programs to support the educator pipeline



District/LEA Plans Required



Each LEA that receives funds must submit a plan as outlined by the state and in alignment with federal requirements. The plan must include:

1. Health and Safety Plan

 Prevention and mitigation strategies that are consistent with the most recent CDC guidelines (if possible) in order to continuously operate for in-person learning

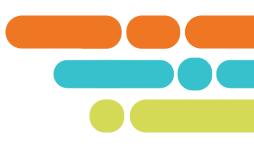
2. Public-Facing ESSER Plan

- Overall Strategy
- Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time Plan: How the district will address the impact of lost instructional time through summer learning, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, extended year programs
- *Interventions:* How interventions address the needs of students in all student groups

3. Spending Plan

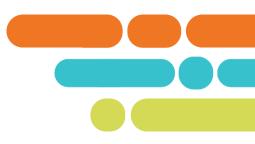
- How all funds will be spent (ePlan); information provided through a separate webinar

Plan Requirements



- All plans are due to TDOE no later than August 1, 2021
- Public-facing ESSER Plans must include meaningful public consultation
 - Include: Families, students, teachers, principals, school and district admins (incl. special education),
 school leaders, other educators, school staff, advocacy organizations representing student groups
 - Opportunity for input and meaningful consideration of that input
- Plans must be in an understandable and uniform format
- Plans must be reasonably provided in the language(s) of parents in the district and be orally translated for such parents
- If requested, plans must be provided in additional alternative formats that are accessible to individuals with disabilities
- Plans must be made publicly available on the LEA website by August 1st and on the state website within thirty (30) days

Supports from the TDOE



These and other resources will be posted at tn.gov/education/top-links/esser.html

Grants Preview

- Opportunities and updates will be posted and updated
- Will cover whether competitive or not, amount, timeline, etc.

Plan Templates and Resources

- Templates for Public-Facing ESSER Plan and the Health and Safety Plan
- Link to ePlan for the Spending Plan

Planning Grant for Districts

- Support ESSER planning and implementation
- Non-competitive



Tennessee Department of Education LEA Grant and Resource Opportunities

Strategic Priority Area	Topic	Tentative Grant Title	Tentative Release	Due Date	Amount	Competitive or Not Competitive	Match Requirement?	Additional Notes
Best for All	ESSER Planning	ESSER Planning Grant	May 21, 2021	June 15, 2021	Varies	Not Competitive	No	Grant to support planning and implementation work related to ESSER funds.
Academics	Tutoring	Connected Literacy	Early Summer 2021	TBD	Parent/ family grants	Lottery	No	Grants to families to secure tutoring services for 1st – 3rd grade students. Service providers can be districts, schools, teachers, non-profits, etc.
Academics	TN ALL Corps	TN ALL Corps LEA Grants	June 1, 2021	July 15, 2021	Varies (min. \$115M total)	Not Competitive	Yes	Grants will cover a specific number of grades and follow the students over three years. Grants are intended to target those students who are not yet at the Meets or <u>Masters</u> levels and should cover 25% of students in grade bands served. Additional grants will be made available to districts serving other grade bands.
Academics	TN ALL Corps	TN ALL Corps Partner Grants	June 1, 2021	July 15, 2021	\$21M	Not Competitive	Yes	Grants to community partner organizations to support after-school tutoring. Preference will be given to those partners with relationships with LEAs, charter schools, and/or EPPs.
Academics	Reading 360	Early Literacy Networks	Open	May 2021	\$40,000 per year	Not Competitive	No	\$40,000 yearly grant for two years (\$80,000) total for district PreK-2 early literacy implementation support providers and quarterly regional community of practice sessions.
Academics	Reading 360	Summer 2022 Advanced Literacy PD	Early Spring 2022	TBD	N/A	Not Competitive	No	Building off the summer 2021 literacy training, the TDOE will incorporate feedback and offer another round of PD as well as expand those sessions to include middle and high school educators in ELA, special education, and social sciences.

Grants Preview Sheet



[DISTRICT] Public Plan: Federal Relief Spending

(Esthetics: https://reportcard.tnedu.gov/districts/190)

General Information							
LEA Name			Director of Schools				
Address							
Phone #							
Mission and Vision							
Grades Served	mber of ools		Student Enrollment				
Percentage of Studen	ts						
Race/Ethnicity		%			%		
American Indian/Alaska Nat	ive		Asian				
Black/African American			Hispanic				
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Isla	nder		White	White			
Multiracial							
Economica ll y Disadvantaged		English Learners					
with Disabi l ities		Foster					
Homeless			in Military Famil				
Migrant			with High-Speed	e			
Link to state accounta report card:	ability		'		'		
Funding							
ESSER 1.0 Allocation	SSER 2.0 llocation		ESSER 3.0 Allocation				
			Total Allocation	1			
Infrastructure Allocation (projected*)							
Requirements for Spendi	ng:		I.				
20% on learning loss							

ESSER Public Plan Template



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Elementary and

Secondary Emergency

Tennessee Department of Education | May 2021

Health & Safety Plan Template

Planning Grant



Purpose

Support districts in developing strong ESSER plans, targeted at moving student achievement forward

Planning Grant Structure

- Districts 0 3,000 students: \$125,000 per district
- Districts 3,001 5,000 students: \$150,000 per district
- Districts 5,001 10,000 students: \$175,000 per district
- Districts more than 10,000 students: \$200,000 per district

Requirements

- Money used to support an external partner or partner(s) for planning and the first year of implementation
- TDOE will provide a directory of options, with information and pricing (optional for providers to enter their information on)

Partner Requirements:

- Support community engagement planning with the district, if requested
- 1 day of district planning (on-site or remote) and ½ day board retreat, county commission (or similar, if requested)
- Draft ESSER Plan and coordinated implementation plan with the district
- Draft a data collection and monitoring plan
- Monthly implementation checks in the first year, with recommendations (provided to district and TDOE)
- Ongoing implementation support from June 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022

Assurances

- External partner must participate in 2-hour TDOE onboarding
- 80% of ESSER Plan must align with TDOE recommendations
- External partner must submit quarterly update on implementation progress to highlight district work

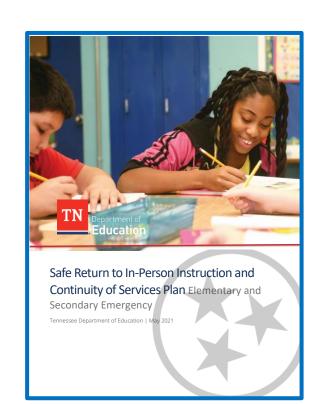
District Health and Safety Requirements



Health and Safety Plan

- The LEA plan for a safe return to in-person instruction
 - How it will maintain the health and safety of stakeholders and the extent to which it has adopted policies established by the CDC
 - Services to address student and staff academic, social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, including health and food service
- Plans must be updated every 6 months based on updated CDC guidance (August 1st and February 1st) and must be made publicly available within 30 days
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation, and in an understandable format
- TDOE will provide a template for use by LEAs

If a plan was developed prior to this date and meets the above requirements, it only needs to be posted and then revised every 6 months. TDOE will provide a brief assurance form should a district qualify for this provision.



Health and Safety Plan Template



Consultation with Stakeholders

- Describe how the LEA will, in planning for the use of ARP ESSER funds, engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders.
- Provide an overview of how the public stakeholder input was considered in the development of the LEA's plan for ARP ESSER funds.
- How did the LEA compile feedback during the open comment period for the ARP Plan?
- How was the input considered during the open comment period time?

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction

Describe the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies:

- Universal and correct wearing of masks;
- physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);
- hand washing and respiratory etiquette;
- cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities;
- improving ventilation;
- contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine;
- diagnostic and screening testing;
- efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible; and
- appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

Continuity of Services Plan

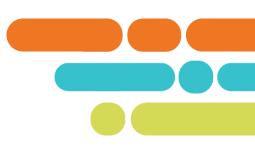
How the LEA will ensure continuity of services including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.



ESSER Application



- Budget
- Spending Plan
- Programs Details
- Personnel Details
- Charter School
- Assurances

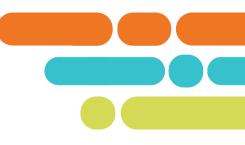




Technical Application Guide:

Elementary and Secondary School
Emergency Relief Fund 3.0 (ESSER Fund 3.0)
Tennessee Department of Education | Updated May 5, 2021

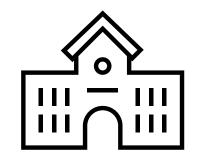
Best For All: Leveraging ESSER Plans













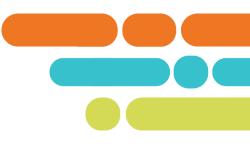
Understand

what is needed for students to access grade-level content over the next 3 years. Ascertain the academic, mental health, and other needs to students and staff.

Design a multiyear LEA recovery plan aligned to maximizing the one-time funds received and needs of students. Implement the components of the plan, with a strong focus on quality of a few, large initiatives, and a clear process for data collection.

Monitor, Evaluate
and Adjust based on
the results of the
data collection and
feedback from
students and staff.

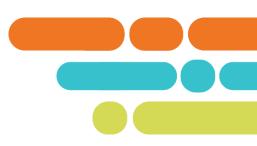
District ESSER Plan



The District Plan is due by August 1, 2021, and includes sections for:

- Overview and Current Status and Needs
- Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations (link to Health and Safety Plan)
- Planning for the Use and Coordination of ARP ESSER Funds
- Supporting the Educator Workforce
- Monitoring and Measuring Progress

District ESSER Plan Components: Overview and Current Status and Needs



- Overview of demographic information, links to published materials (strategic plans, etc.), and overall funding allocations
- Overview of spending buckets: Academics, Student Readiness, Educators, Foundations
- Link to Health and Safety Plan
- All parts of the plan will have a description section
- All parts of the plan will require an option to list whether matching grants were considered or other additional supports were used

District ESSER Plan Components: Needs Assessment



- Reflect on challenges faced during pandemic
- Identify and prioritize district needs
- Identify individual student groups most impacted by the pandemic
- Summarize how the district is addressing learning loss
 - Overview of evidence-based interventions

District ESSER Plan Components: Planning for ESSER Funds (Academics)



- High Dosage, Low Ratio Tutoring*
 - For implementation SY 21-22, SY 22-23, SY 23-24
 - Description and breakdown of grade band and students served
- Summer Programming*
 - For summers 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024
 - Description and additional summer programming offered (above and beyond state program)
- Literacy
 - High quality materials and information on building literacy in each grade band
- Math Adoption
 - Pre-Adoption SY 21-22, Adoption SY 22-23, Implementation SY 23-24
 - Expected funding and professional development support for local adoption

^{*} Can be used towards the federal learning loss requirement, if the service provided can be directly tied to addressing access to grade-level reading and math

District ESSER Plan Components: Planning for ESSER Funds (Student Readiness)

- Supports for High School Students
 - Access to Advanced Coursework
 - Career Pathways
 - Student Acceleration in High School (alternative pathways, credit recovery, etc.)
 - Academic Advising and Transitions (incoming 9th and exiting 12th graders)
- Special Populations
 - Efforts to provide compensatory or additional services to special populations (especially students with disabilities and English learners)
- Mental Health
 - Efforts to support the mental health of students
- Students Experiencing Homelessness
 - For those LEAs receiving this additional funding, describe the supports developed

* Can be used towards the federal learning loss requirement, if the service provided can be directly tied to addressing access to grade-level reading and math

District ESSER Plan Components: Planning for ESSER Funds (Educator Workforce)



- Principal and Assistant Principal Retention and Development
- Additional Staffing Supports: Literacy and Math Coaching, Floating Substitutes, College and Career Coaches and Advisors, Paraprofessionals, Special Education Staff and Interventionists*
- Temporary Class Size Reduction

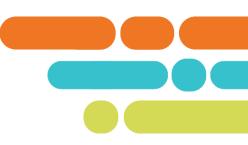
District ESSER Plan Components: Foundations



- Investments in Technology Hardware and Software
- High-speed Internet
- Facility Improvements (supporting academic spaces)
- Monitoring, Auditing, Data Collection and Reporting

There will also be a space to highlight the contingency plan in the case (1) infrastructure funding becomes available or (2) initiatives are underspent. The district should list how they plan to allocate those funds.

District ESSER Plan Components: Monitoring and Measurement



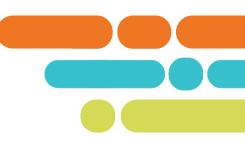
There is a significant amount of data collection, reporting, monitoring and auditing that is required as a result of so much funding being allocated to states and local districts. This section requires the district to outline how they will address each of these areas:

- Data Collection
- Reporting
- Monitoring
- Auditing

Districts must also annotate how they will measure the ongoing success or challenges of their investments through program evaluation and articulate if they will have additional partners to support this work.



School Model and Attendance Dashboard: USDOE Required Updates



The existing dashboard will continue through at least the end of next year. The reporting will move from a weekly to a **monthly basis**.

Report learning model (by district)

- Overall district enrollment for all students and student groups for each learning model
- Overall district attendance for all students and student groups for each learning model

Report learning model (by school)

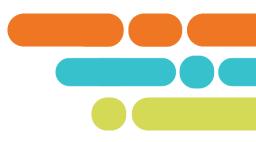
- Enrollment at each school for all students and student groups for each learning model
- Attendance at each school for all students and student groups for each learning model

Student groups identified by USDOE

 Students from low-income families, each racial and ethnic group, gender, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, and other groups disproportionately impacted as identified by TDOE

Please note this is considered formal reporting to USDOE, so accuracy is important.

Academics Data



- Benchmark Data
- Summer Programming
 - Pre- and post-tests
 - Attendance
 - Level of teacher or tutor
 - Student selection
- Tutoring
 - Ratio, by student
 - Hours
 - Quality of tutor or teacher
 - Content and Materials
 - Ongoing data
 - By school and student group

Student Readiness Data



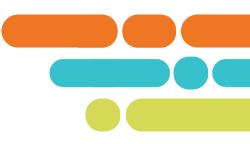
- Hours of nurses (need vs. access)
- Data related to how LEAs are addressing students' and staff mental health and other needs, per USDOE
- Engagement metrics for high school students
- Credit Recovery Needs
- Dual Credit Enrollment
- Post-secondary and EPSO Opportunity, Access, and Uptake
- Transition data for all applicable grades
- Supports for special populations

Educators Data



- Shortages in every staffing category (unfilled vacancies)
- Retention incentives and outcomes
- Recruitment incentives/strategies and outcomes
- Professional development
- Data related to how LEAs are addressing students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs

Health and Safety Data



These are only **initial example requirements** based on the current information requested in ESSER plans. Final data collection requirements will be available by July 1, 2021. Any strategy funded will need to report the outcomes/results of all investments. This must also be reported by student group and grade level, including the outcomes for those student groups who the district identified as disproportionately impacted.

These are not required, but the USDOE would like information on the strategy around usage and implementation of these items:

- PPE
- Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining health facilities, including improving ventilation
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantining in collaboration with the state, local, or tribal health departments
- Diagnostic and screening testing
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

Other Data



- Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism (as outlined)
- Spending Reports (with attached supporting documentation)
- Per-pupil Allocations (by school)
- Plan Changes (with rationale)
- Student Discipline
- Technology Access
- Internet Access



Monitoring: What to Expect

- Integration into existing monitoring protocols
 - Results-based
 - Desktop
 - Self
 - Fiscal
- Additional oversight/monitoring
 - Random informal monitoring reviews each quarter
 - Interim monitoring once per semester (desk)
 - Follow-up/focus monitoring
 - Summative report bi-annually shared with stakeholders

Monitoring and Auditing: Expectations and Opportunities



- Reimbursement requests
 - Districts should submit reimbursements monthly
 - Documentation must be uploaded for each reimbursement request
 - The department will be monitoring draw downs monthly
 - Follow up and technical assistance as needed
- Opportunity for audit support
 - Statewide contract for interim/informal auditing support made available for districts to purchase from
- Additional information to be released June 2021
 - Protocols, timelines, technical assistance

